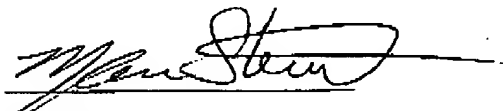


REMARKS

Applicants thanks the Examiner for indicating claims 1-15, 23-28, 31-39, 41-52, 55-63, 65-76, 79-87, and 89-98 allowable. As we discussed during our telephone conference on Thursday, March 24, 2005, claim 23 is an independent claim and was incorrectly canceled in Examiner's Amendment to the Notice of Allowance. Thank you for your assurances that claim 23 will not be canceled and a new Notice of Allowance will be issued reflecting that claim 23 is allowed. We also discussed claims 19-21, which were not included in the list of allowed claims on the Notice of Allowance. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences reversed the rejection of claims 19-21, which were dependent from canceled claims 16 and 18. Proposed amendments are made to claims 19-21 to place them in independent form. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments to the claims. Applicants respectfully request entry of these proposed amendments and issuance of a new Notice of Allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

DATE: April 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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